

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) Catch brake [[(1)]] for a trunk lid of a motor vehicle, especially a passenger car, for slowing the opening movement of the trunk lid upon reaching its open position, wherein a tubular hinge bail [[(3)]] of the trunk lid is braked by a clamping action in an essentially U-shaped clamping receiver [[(4)]] and is prevented from rebounding, characterized in that the clamping receiver [[(4)]] is provided with tapering lateral brake cheeks [[(5)]] which form a continuous taper in the direction of the opening motion, so that a narrowing clamping receiver [[(4)]] is formed between them, that the brake cheeks [[(5)]] are elastically flexible to one another and that the lateral brake cheeks [[(5)]] are joined together by a resiliently deformable connecting link [[(6)]] which has means (2) for mounting the catch brake [[(1)]].

2. (currently amended) Catch brake [[(1)]] according to claim 1, characterized in that wherein the brake cheeks [[(5)]] are so configured that a continuously tapering clamping receiver [[(4)]] is formed in which the hinge bail [[(3)]] can enter without head-on collision in the clamping receiver [[(4)]].

3. (currently amended) Catch brake [[(1)]] according to claim 1 [[or 2]], characterized in that wherein the brake cheeks [[(5)]] are formed from a hard plastic material, especially polyoxymethylene, that is resistant to attrition.

4. (currently amended) Catch brake [[(1)]] according to ~~any one of the foregoing claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that wherein the catch brake [[(1)]] consists of a multi-component plastic piece, wherein the connecting link [[(6)]] is formed from a softer plastic than the lateral brake cheeks [[(5)]].

5. (currently amended) Catch brake [[(1)]] according to claim 4, characterized in that wherein the lateral brake cheeks [[(5)]] are formed from a relatively hard core which is embedded in a softer plastic material.

6. (currently amended) Trunk lid opening device of a motor vehicle, by means of which a trunk lid is movable from a closed to an open position, a catch brake [[(1)]] being provided for slowing the opening movement of the trunk lid upon reaching its open position, and wherein a tubular hinge bail [[(3)]] of the trunk lid is slowed by a clamping action in an essentially U-shaped clamping receiver [[(4)]] and prevented from rebounding, characterized in that the catch brake [[(1)]] has lateral brake cheeks [[(5)]] with a continuous taper in the direction of the open position between them to form an increasingly narrowing clamping receiver [[(4)]], that the brake cheeks [[(5)]] are elastically flexible to one another and that the lateral brake cheeks [[(5)]] are joined together by a resiliently deformable connecting link [[(6)]] which has fastening means (2) of the catch brake [[(1)]].

7. (currently amended) Trunk lid opening device according to claim 6, characterized in that wherein an automatic system for opening the trunk lid is provided.